



NAVPERSCOM welcomes USS *Enterprise* CVBG

By Journalist 1st Class Daniel Pearson, NAVPERSCOM public affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — The Navy Personnel Command recently welcomed members from the USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65) Battle Group (CVBG) to Millington, Tenn., as 60 of its executive officers, command master chiefs and command career counselors received tailored briefings on attrition and retention, enlisted distribution items of interest, and service record and fitness report/evaluation issues.

Hosted and organized by the Center for Career Development (CCD) in Millington, the visit focused on communicating and sharing retention practices that have worked best in the fleet.

Typically, CCD command visits include a “best practices” brief, a professional selling skills course for Navy Career Counselors, and a workshop that helps Sailors compare compensation between military and civilian careers.

“The intent of the command visit is to put out information that the Sailors and their spouses will need to make informed career decisions,” said Lt. Cmdr. John S. Banigan, project manager at CCD.

The CCD briefings for the *Enterprise* Battle Group, however, focused on what leaders need to do to keep Sailors in the Navy.

“Our primary focus is retaining our best Sailors,” said Capt. Jake Ross, CCD’s director. “The leaders in the

fleet are the ones who retain Sailors, so we want to provide them with the right tools.”

The briefings in Millington also gave battle group leadership the opportunity to contact detailers face-to-face to resolve command personnel issues.

“This was a chance for me to come to Millington and get all the knowledge I can to work better with my people and my career counselor,” said Master Chief Mess Management Specialist(SW) Lisa A. Beard, command master chief for Carrier

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USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65).

U.S. Navy photo

Chosin Reservoir Campaign remembered at Navy Memorial

By Marine Corps Historical Division and Henderson Hall News

WASHINGTON (NNS) — On a blustery Dec. 12, cold enough to remind those in attendance why they were there, a crowd of 400 gathered at the U.S. Navy Memorial to honor and remember American and Allied heroes of the epic Chosin Reservoir Campaign of the Korean War 50 years ago. The ceremony, hosted by Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig, was one of two national events conducted by the Navy and Marine Corps to commemorate the campaign as part of the congressionally authorized 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Korean War.

The day’s events began with a formal, full honors ceremony at the memorial that was followed by a symposium on the campaign at the memorial’s Naval Heritage Center. Throughout, the focus was on remembering those who served and honoring their sacrifices by learning the many lessons of the campaign, a purpose stated by Danzig in his opening remarks.

“We also have an opportunity to learn today from what happened 50 years ago,” Danzig said. “We made strategic assessments that were overconfident in the wake of a brilliant landing at Inchon. We

positioned ourselves in ways which were strategically unwise ...”

Danzig continued, “In the end, whatever deficiencies existed in our larger plan, in our preparation and our strategic judgments, were more than compensated for by the amazing courage, the bravery of our Marines, of our Soldiers, of our Airmen, of our Sailors, of Coast Guardsmen and Merchant Marine members who fought with us, of our allies from 21 nations.”

The Chosin Reservoir Campaign began when Gen.

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Gray Eagle title passes to NWC president

By Naval War College public affairs

NEWPORT, R.I. (NNS) — Rear Adm. James I. Maslowski, naval aviation's "Gray Eagle" since March 2000, passed the title to Vice Adm. Arthur K. Cebrowski during a ceremony at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., on Dec. 20.

The Venerable Order of the Gray Eagle is held by the active duty naval aviator, Navy or Marine, who has worn the "wings of gold" (the naval aviator pin) the longest. Maslowski, director of the Navy International Programs Office in Washington, D.C., received his naval aviator wings June 25, 1965.

The ceremony was held in the war college's historic Mahan Rotunda. Retired Vice Adm. John Mazach presided over the ceremony. Mazach, currently vice president, Aircraft Product Support and Services, Northrup Grumman, thanked Maslowski for his contributions to naval aviation

over the duration of his service prior to officially passing the torch to Cebrowski.

"It has been a great ride for me," Maslowski said, just prior to turning over the Gray Eagle title. "I took my last flight Nov. 29 in a F-18D. It reminded me of the time when doing six G's was normal."

After accepting the title, Cebrowski recalled some of the events occurring during the year he received his wings of gold. The carrier wing he was about to join was taking losses during flights over North Vietnam. He said that the lessons he learned during that time stayed with him for his entire career.

Each Gray Eagle has his name, date of wings and naval aviator number engraved on a large trophy maintained at the National Museum of Naval Aviation in Pensacola, Fla. A smaller replica trophy is presented to each Gray Eagle

by Northrop Grumman Corporation, which sponsors the award.

The Gray Eagle was first presented on Jan. 25, 1961, the 50th anniversary of naval aviation. The first Gray Eagle was Adm. Charles "Cat" Brown, then commander in chief, Allied Forces, Southern Europe. Since then, 37 naval aviators have officially held the title.

Maslowski has logged over 4,000 flight hours flying the A-4 Skyhawk, F-4J Phantom II, A-7E Corsair II and the F/A 18 Hornet. He commanded Attack Squadron (VA 94), USS *Concord* (AFS 5) and USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) and also served as a demonstration pilot with the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels.

Cebrowski, president of the Naval War College received his wings of gold Dec. 1, 1965. He has logged

over 4,000 hours flying the F-4, F-106 Delta Dart and F-14 Tomcat during his 37-year naval career.

He has commanded Fighter Squadron 41 and Carrier Air Wing 8, both embarked aboard USS *Nimitz* (CVN 68), commanded USS *Guam* (LPH 9), and USS *Midway* (CV 41) during Operation Desert Storm.

Cebrowski holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Villanova University and a Master of Science degree in Computer Systems Management from the Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey, Calif. He has been a member of the CNO's Strategic Studies Group and a Federal Executive Fellow at the Council of Foreign Affairs.

For more information on the Venerable Order of the Gray Eagle, please visit the Naval Historical Center's web site, www.history.navy.mil/avh-1910/APP32.PDF.

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Airborne Early Warning Squadron 124. "It gave me better insight into how the whole system works and how we can work together with everyone in Millington to make everything come together."

Working together with their counterparts in the battle group was a benefit as well, according to Navy Counselor 1st Class Barbara Beck, Command Career Counselor aboard USS *McFaul* (DDG 74).

"This is the first time I've been with everybody in the battle group, and I think the networking I've done today is going to be worth the trip," Beck noted.

Captain Rick Jensen, chief of staff for the *Enterprise* Battle Group, added that direct communication with detailers and placement officers was also an important aspect of the visit.

"Associating a name with a face is a huge benefit," Jensen said. "Millington is a fair distance from Norfolk and Mayport, and I think there's great value in getting people here to interface and communicate."

"It's always good to have somebody here that you know," agreed former detailer Lt. Cmdr. Wade Wilkenson, now executive officer on USS *Gettysburg* (CG 64). "It makes

the whole business process easier."

While one-on-one contact with detailers was an extra incentive for the *Enterprise* battle group leaders to visit Millington, Ross said CCD personnel travel to most commands to conduct retention briefings.

"We're out on the road listening to our constituents, seeing what they need and providing feedback from their shipmates on best practices, what has worked to retain a Sailor," Ross explained.

According to Master Chief Electronics Technician(SS/SW) Kevin Davis, CCD's

command master chief liaison, the CCD team plans to travel to more than 50 sites in the coming year, but also hopes that the *Enterprise* Battle Group's visit will encourage others to send representatives to Millington.

Wherever they meet, when retention-minded groups get together to exchange ideas, the deck-plate Sailor will ultimately reap the benefits.

"There's a lot of information being put out that needs to get out to the fleet," observed Beck. "The more educated you are, and the more you understand, the better it is for your Sailors."

New rules for firearms shipped stateside

By Robert Szostek, U.S. European Command Customs public affairs

MANNHEIM, Germany (NNS) — Many Americans stationed in Germany have decided to send some or all their firearms stateside rather than try to comply with more stringent firearm registration rules that come into effect Jan. 1.

However, importing firearms into the United States will get you in a lot of trouble with U.S. Customs if you don't do it right.

Mailing firearms stateside before your estimated termination of service or permanent change of station (PCS) date is not a good idea. It is illegal to use the military postal system to mail handguns, surplus military firearms, war trophies or ammunition to the States. Air Force postal crews X-ray all parcels flown to the States from Europe to uncover any illegal firearms and munitions that gun owners may try to "sneak" back home.

"However, some German firearm dealers can ship handguns to the states for you but will obviously charge a corresponding fee," said Michael L. Burkert, director of the European Command's Customs Executive Agency.

Handgun owners using a licensed dealer must have an approved import permit from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

According to the latest information from the bureau, military personnel may mail rifles and shotguns to stateside licensed gun dealers. However, an approved ATF import permit and a copy of the gun dealer's federal license must accompany the firearm. Service members may use the military postal system to mail privately owned firearms to their new U.S. address in conjunction with a

PCS movement, Burkert added. Proof of prior stateside possession and an ATF permit must accompany these firearms.

Service members may take rifles and shotguns that are not military or assault types with them when they fly stateside on official movement orders, leave or temporary duty by proving they possessed the firearms in the United States. Stateside firearm registrations, customs registrations, bills of sale and shipping documents listing the firearm by serial numbers are good forms of proof.

"For long guns acquired overseas," Burkert continued, "you must obtain an import permit from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and

Firearms." Antique long guns require only proof of manufacture in or before 1898 and black-powder long guns require no documentation.

United States civilian employees have even fewer freedoms than military personnel when importing firearms to the States. The only break for government employees overseas is one that lets them ship firearms in their household goods when they return to the states on official orders.

"Otherwise, civilians must get the ATF approval and import firearms through a licensed gun dealer," Burkert stated.

Personnel who need ATF

permits may obtain the appropriate application forms at any military customs office or download them for printing from the ATF web page at www.atf.treas.gov/forms/5000.htm#firearms. The electronic forms are in Adobe .pdf format and must still be submitted in hard copy. Gun owners may have to wait six-to-eight weeks to receive a reply to a U.S. import application for firearms acquired overseas. The bureau sends applicants an import permit or tells them the reason for disapproval. ATF's Washington office only accepts applications with original signatures (no faxes). Once

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Sweepers, Man Your Brooms



Personnel clean the flight deck with scrub brushes during a day of no flight ops. USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72) and Carrier Air Wing 14 are transiting the Indian Ocean en route to Australia for some well deserved liberty. Photo by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class Dan Mark

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Douglass MacArthur, in the aftermath of the brilliantly successful Inchon landing, directed the "X Corps" in the northeast, and the 8th U.S. Army in the west to advance north towards the Yalu River and the Manchurian Border in simultaneous, but uncoordinated offensives in November 1950. X Corps, under the command of Army Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, consisted of the 1st Marine Division, the Army's under strength 7th Infantry Division, and two Republic of Korea Army Divisions.

The 1st Marine Division, with elements of the 7th Infantry Division and the 41 Independent Commando Royal Marines, was ordered to advance to the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir along a harrowing mountainous route, where it was attacked by the 9th Army Group (12 divisions) of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Over the weeks that followed, in brutal, sub-zero winter conditions, the division would conduct a fighting withdrawal southward to the port city of Hungnam, bringing all of its wounded and most of its dead and equipment with it.

Along the way, the division and supporting aircraft from the 1st Marine

Aircraft Wing and carriers of the Navy's Task Force 77 would inflict an estimated 37,500 enemy casualties (including 25,000 dead), leaving the 9th Army Group unable to fight again until the following spring, after it received an estimated 60,000 replacements.

Throughout the 1st Marine Division's fighting withdrawal, Marine aircraft and the Air Force's Combat Cargo Command conducted a critical aerial resupply and medical evacuation. Over 4,000 wounded Marines and Soldiers were evacuated by Air Force aircraft from the besieged airstrip at Hagaru-ri, near the southern tip of the reservoir.

At Hungnam, while the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Division secured the perimeter, the Navy's Task Force 90 — including attached merchant ships of the Military Sea Transportation Service (now the Military Sealift Command) — conducted one of the largest and most orderly amphibious withdrawals in history, redeploying 105,000 Allied troops and evacuating close to 100,000 North Korean refugees who voted with their feet against communism.

As Danzig remarked, the Hungnam operation was "a remarkable achievement

of leadership and orchestration."

By Dec. 24, the redeployment and humanitarian evacuation were complete, and the port destroyed by Navy underwater demolition teams.

In all, 14 Marines (seven posthumously), two Sailors (one posthumously) and two Soldiers (both posthumously) would receive the Medal of Honor for their valor during the Chosin Reservoir Campaign.

Among the most moving events of the day came towards the end of the ceremony, as everyone stood at attention rendering salutes while the Royal Marine Band played the traditional British honors to the fallen, "Last Post," followed by "Taps" from a U.S. Marine Bugler.

As the Navy Band played the Navy Hymn, retired Chaplain (Capt.) John H. Craven, chaplain of the 7th Marines at Chosin, delivered a moving benediction: "Thank you, Lord, for bringing us home through the snow and the ice ..."

For more information about other Korean War commemorative events, go to www.korea50.army.mil.

More information about the U.S. Navy Memorial can be found at www.lonesailor.org.

Navy Region Northwest receives Vice Presidential Hammer Award

By Navy Region Northwest public affairs

EVERETT, Wash. (NNS) — Navy Region Northwest and the Washington State Department of Ecology were each recognized recently with a Vice Presidential Hammer Award for reducing oil spills and hazardous waste in the Puget Sound area while saving taxpayers \$43 million over the last 10 years.

The award is presented by the National Partnership for Reinventing Government and recognizes federal and local government agencies for initiatives that work better and cost less. Vice President Al Gore created the program and the award in 1994 after news reports of widespread government waste, including a \$400 hammer.

Rear Adm. Vinson Smith,



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approved, an ATF permit is valid for one year and must be with the firearm when it arrives in the states.

Another factor in mailing or taking firearms to the States before returning stateside on orders is that the firearms may be subject to the payment of duty.

"You may be charged import duty for foreign-made firearms acquired overseas," Burkert explained. Firearms that were manufactured in the United States or which you previously owned in the United States can be imported duty-free. You can only avoid paying duty on foreign-made guns by waiting for your official movement orders, he added.

Sending firearms stateside is a complicated matter. Call a military customs office to find out which rules apply to you. More information is also available on the military customs web site at www.hqusareur.army.mil/opm/guns.htm.

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commander, Navy Region Northwest and Tom Fitzsimmons, director of the Department of Ecology, were presented the awards at a ceremony in the Washington State Capital Building in Olympia. On hand for the event were commanding officers from naval installations throughout the Puget Sound area, as well as personnel from the Department of Ecology.

"Your Hammer Award might be just the cheapest award you'll ever receive. A regular \$6 hammer, a little ribbon and note card all in an aluminum frame," said Susan Blumenthal, who presented the award on Gore's behalf. "Your Hammer Award represents your vision and hard work. It symbolizes what is right in today's government ... the core principals of reinvention; delivering great service, fostering partnerships and community solutions and getting the job done with less."

The Hammer Awards honor the combined efforts of the two

organizations that have resulted in a 93 percent decrease in the volume of hazardous waste disposed of between 1990 and 1999. During this time, Sailors consolidated their work and reduced the number of products

such as solvents and acid used to coat parts or strip paint off ships.

In the area of spill prevention, the Navy reduced the total volume spilled in 1999 by 56 percent and reduced the number of spills by 26 percent compared to 1998. To date in 2000, the Navy has reduced the total volume spilled by 96 percent and reduced the number of spills 64 percent compared to the same period last year.

The partnership has also led to improved relations with the State of Washington, putting in place "day of spill protocols" that have decreased response times and increased communication between the agencies. Although the Navy is still exempt from state fines for spills, Sailors do a restoration project for every oil spill that exceeds 50 gallons.

Examples of past projects include cleaning up a section of land and planting more than 300 trees along a tributary of a local creek, cleaning up and stabilizing an area beach and reconstructing a fish ladder.

Navy Region Northwest includes Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Naval Magazine Indian Island, Naval Station Bremerton, Submarine Base Bangor and Naval Station Everett.

Navy/Marine Corps News

Look for the following stories and more on next week's Navy/Marine Corps News show:

- The amphibious assault ship PCU Iwo Jima (LHD 7) passes its first round of sea trials with flying colors;

- Hospital corpsmen at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., are on call 24 hours a day to meet medical emergencies;

- A Sailor in Japan uses his martial arts talent to train shipmates for competition;

- Sailors and Marines in San Diego volunteer to set up beds in a shelter for homeless veterans.

Compiled on tape #2001-02, the show is on its way to the fleet now.

In naval history: Jan. 9, 1945

Vice. Adm. Thomas C. Kinkaid, 7th Fleet commander, landed four divisions of the 6th Army at Lingayen Gulf, on the northwest tip of the Philippines.

The beaches were lightly defended; Japanese Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita had withdrawn most of his 250,000 soldiers into the mountainous interior.

By nightfall, 68,000 American troops were safely ashore.

More information about naval history can be found at www.navy.mil.

Happy New Year



Sailors enjoy a smorgasbord of appetizing food during the "New Year's Eve Blow Out" celebration, sponsored by the ship's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Division, held on the mess decks aboard USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75).

Photo by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class (AW) Jesi Werling



NAVNEWS, a weekly publication containing stories of fleetwide interest, is an official product of the Naval Media Center.

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